

Since the Americas is an older mission field with a historical Christian background, praise God that many believers in these countries understand the importance of Bible translation. There are many excellent Spanish and Portuguese seminaries in this area and many strong national partners.

Pray for God to raise up more laborers in the Americas and to provide clarity on the task that remains so that all people can have access to his Word in a way they can understand and accept.

STRENGTHS	OBSTACLES	URGENT NEED
Translation teams often benefit from community support, strong partnerships, well-trained theologians, and a high level of technology & internet access.	Language surveys are still needed to determine Bible translation needs of remaining languages, many of which are oral cultures or sign languages.	While the Americas has more interns training to be translation consultants than any other region, the current shortage is hindering people receiving God's Word.



Regional Praise

3 Completed Bibles in Guatemalan Minority Languages

In Guatemala, a remarkable project nears completion: producing the entire Bible in the Achi, Awakateko, Kiche, Mam, and Tz'utujil languages. These peoples have longed to hold all of God's Word in their hands. Three of these Bibles are in the final stages of publication. The Achi and Tz'utujil Bibles have been sent to Korea for printing, and the Awakateko Bible is in the typesetting stage!

Though most people in these groups identify as Christians, traditional Mayan beliefs remain influential. But as God's Word becomes available in their heart languages, more people are discovering that Christ alone is worthy of worship.

PRAY

The Mam Bible is also ready for typesetting, but translator Samuel's 11-year-old daughter Maria has been struggling with serious health issues. Pray for complete healing in Jesus' name.



Monday

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone." — Mark 16:15 (NLT)

PRAY FOR BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUPS

Zoró and Waiampi Camopi of the Americas

The Zoró and Waiampi Camopi translation teams are part of an 11-language <u>cluster project</u> that just began in June.

Zoró	Waiampi Camopi
In the 1970s, when Zoró people received a message that someone had arrived in the area to share God's Word, they replied, "Mark the path, and we'll go there." They walked three days through the forest to hear the gospel.	The vast majority of Waiampi Camopi people do not follow Christ, but they have a strong concept of a creator. A believer in a different Waiampi group wants to reach them with the four translated Gospels.
PRAISE Today, 50% identify as Christ followers!	PRAISE Praise God for the heart of this nearby Waiampi believer!
PRAY Though they have a thriving church, they still have no Scripture in their language. Ask for grace and favor as they translate the full New Testament and Old Testament portions.	PRAY No foreign missionaries are allowed in the region, which could make logistics for this project difficult.



Pray Now

For Mr. Manoel, the main translator of the brand-new Xerente project in Brazil. And pray for his family. A few weeks ago, his daughter died of an aneurysm. She is the third child he has lost tragically in just a few years. With only 3,000 speakers, this loss affects the whole Xerente community.



Tuesday

God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

— 1 Corinthians 1:9 (NLT)

PRAY FOR PARTNERS SIL Mexico

<u>SIL Mexico</u>, known as Instituto Lingüístico de Verano, is a nonprofit organization that facilitates Bible translation through in-depth linguistic research of indigenous languages.

The first SIL organization was founded by <u>William Cameron Townsend</u> in 1936 with the help and friendship offered by Mexico's President General Lázaro Cárdenas. Work progressed and the number of languages researched by SIL grew. Today there are <u>branches all over the world!</u>

PRAISE

For how God has multiplied and blessed SIL's influence and global impact.

PRAY

SIL Mexico offers an important linguistics training course every two years in partnership with one of the most prestigious universities in Mexico, and they encourage indigenous Bible translators to participate. Ask God to continue calling indigenous people to receive training and get involved in translating God's Word!



Pray Now

For the Maya Naha team in Mexico, whose unreliable internet connection has greatly hindered their translation work. Chris Chance, the Seed Company staff member who was installing satellite support to help, had a heart attack. He is back in the office, and a replacement cable has arrived that they hope will fix the internet problem.



Wednesday

In the beginning the Word already existed.

The Word was with God,

and the Word was God.

— John 1:1 (NLT)

Watch John Chapter 1 in Mexican Sign Language

https://biblialsm.com/juan-1-1-5.html





PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

A Testimony from the Mexican Sign Language Team

A Deaf woman shared with translator Ofelia via video chat how she had long resisted her family's efforts to share God's love with her. Then, when a series of life events left her suffering and broken, she began hungering for God's Word.

When she watched Mexican Sign Language Scripture videos, she exclaimed, "I wasted so many years rejecting it! The Word of God is incredible!" She'd only been comprehending about 20% of the written Spanish Bible. Now God's Word was touching her heart.

As she grew in her faith, this woman encouraged Ofelia and the team to publish the complete Bible soon. "I don't want to die of old age without having seen the whole Bible," she said.

PRAY

Project facilitator Shelley's mother, married for 63 years, recently went to be with the Lord. Pray for rest, clarity, and focus for Shelley as she works remotely with the Mexican Sign Language translation team while temporarily staying with her dad.



Thursday

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

- Ephesians 4:12 (NLT)

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

Pray for Jose Carlos Gomez, a Consultant in Training

Read: What Is a Translation Consultant?

"One of the most beautiful experiences in my life was spending a week in San Esteban Tectitlán (Oaxaca) developing an orality workshop for four Chinantec translators. I thank God for allowing me to share in the daily lives of our translators.

"Brother Pablo Eusebio, a 70-year-old brother, has impacted my life in how his community was formed and how the gospel reached San Esteban. Many times, he was persecuted and imprisoned for maintaining his faith in Christ, which was taught to him by his father, Francisco, who brought the gospel to the community. Seeing Pablo, at his age, continuing on and even learning orality has left a good challenge and a great lesson in my life."

PRAISE

Praise God for the opportunity to study linguistics and also work with 4 languages in Mexico in oral translation.

PRAY

For wisdom to handle his responsibilities and to be able to visit "home" in Guatemala.



Pray Now

Teams in a high-security area of the Americas thank the Lord for <u>JAARS</u> providing water safety gear to help them travel down rivers to check Scripture and meet to record Scripture in the next few months. Pray for these teams, as there can be many blockades and interruptions.



Friday

Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts.

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Nandeva People of Paraguay Receive New Testament

Jesus said "From him who believes in me, as the Scripture says, rivers of living water will flow." (John 7:38) This was symbolically demonstrated at the dedication of the Ñandeva New Testament in the Chaco region of Paraguay, known for its scarceness of water. In a reversal of the usual, the area was green and full of life. Some even prayed for the rain to stop for safe travel and holding of the event on April 1. Many came from Argentina, Uruguay, Mexico, Peru, Brazil, the Dominican Republic and Chile. Amid praise songs during the procession to the venue, Bibles were passed from Seed Company partner LETRA Paraguay to elders, who preserved the language, to the translators, who brought God's Word in Ñandeva, to pastors, who will use them to promote spiritual growth and strengthening of the church. Program events included readings from the Ñandeva New Testament, songs, and dances. Activities concluded with the "karu guasu" (great banquet).

History of the Ñandeva Project

Initial investigations in 2008 showed the need for a Ñandeva translation. Aché translator Eliseo became facilitator of the project in 2015 and Marciano, Higinio, and Remencio served as the Ñandeva translators. They completed the Gospels and Acts in 2019, but the pandemic prevented printing of these until 2021. Next came the epistles and Revelation. The New Testament was finalized in 2022 under the new facilitator, Daniel Rodríguez after a community readthrough. The team began Old Testament translation in July 2022.



Ñandeva speaker Ignacio said, "I thank God for the work and effort of the translators because now I can have the Bible in my sweet language."